

LINCOLN CHAFEE U.S. SENATOR RHODE ISLAND

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CHAFEE REACTS TO FERC DECISION ON LNG TERMINALS

WASHINGTON, DC – U.S. Senator Lincoln Chafee released the following statement on hearing the decision of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission:

"I am pleased to see the results of the commission vote to deny the expansion of the LNG terminal in Providence. It appears from first glance that the commission weighed the concerns of security, safety and environmental issues against the benefits of additional energy resources and came to the conclusion that the negatives outweighed the benefits.

While I was pleased with their decision in Providence, I am deeply concerned about the decision to move forward with a facility at Weaver's Cove, in Fall River, MA. There is great potential for environmental damage to our precious Narragansett Bay from the dredging that is necessary to accommodate the tankers.

In addition, the Sandia Report specifically spells out the complications of siting at Weaver's Cove. Issues such as potential damage from spills to bridges and other infrastructure elements may affect Rhode Island directly.

I continue to stress a regional approach as we move forward. All avenues should be explored before a final decision on locating these LNG terminals. New England in its entirety should work together to address the growing need for natural gas in the region and the means of delivery.

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